

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION-CERTIFICATION UNIT

PROVISIONAL CROSS-CATEGORICAL SPECIAL EDUCATION CERTIFICATE K-12

CERTIFICATE QUALIFIES THE HOLDER TO TEACH STUDENTS WITH MILD TO MODERATE MENTAL RETARDATION, EMOTIONAL DISABILITY, SPECIFIC LEARNING DISABILITY, ORTHOPEDIC IMPAIRMENTS AND OTHER HEALTH IMPAIRMENTS.

- **All requirements for the Provisional Cross-Categorical Special Education Certificate must be met.** The provisional certificate is valid for two years and is not renewable, but may be extended once for two years. **Fees are not refundable.**
1. A Bachelor's degree or higher from an accredited institution. Official transcript(s) required.
 2. Option A, B, or C:
 - A. Completion of a teacher preparation program in special education from an accredited institution, which included courses in mental retardation, emotional disability, specific learning disability, orthopedic impairments and other health impairments.
 - B. 45 semester hours of education courses from an accredited institution to include 21 semester hours of special education courses and 8 semester hours of practicum with students representing at least 3 of the 5 disability areas of mental retardation, emotional disability, specific learning disability, orthopedic impairments, and other health impairments.
 - Special education courses shall include (1) survey of exceptional students, (2) teaching methodologies and strategies for students with disabilities, (3) foundations course in mild to moderate mental retardation, learning disability, emotional disabilities and physical/other health impairment, (4) diagnosis and assessment of mild disabilities, and (5) electives in special education (if needed).
 - **Two years** of verified full-time teaching experience in special education representing 3 of the 5 disability areas in grades K-12 may substitute for the 8 semester hours of practicum. (Please submit a letter on official letterhead from District Superintendent or Personnel Director to verify teaching experience.)
 - C. A valid Cross-Categorical Special Education Certificate from another state.
 3. A passing score on the elementary professional knowledge portion of the Arizona Educator Proficiency Assessment.
 4. A passing score on the cross-categorical special education portion of the Arizona Educator Proficiency Assessment.
 5. A valid Arizona Fingerprint Clearance Card (plastic) issued by the Arizona Department of Public Safety at (602) 223-2279.

NOTE: If you otherwise qualify for the certificate but are deficient in Arizona and/or U.S. Constitution, you have **three years** under a valid teaching certificate to fulfill the requirement, except that if you are teaching an academic course on history, government, social studies, citizenship, law, or civics, you have **one year** to fulfill the requirement.

1. Arizona Constitution (a college course or the appropriate examination).
2. U.S. Constitution (a college course or the appropriate examination).

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE STANDARD CROSS-CATEGORICAL SPECIAL EDUCATION CERTIFICATE K-12

- **All requirements for the Standard Cross-Categorical Special Education Certificate must be met.** The standard certificate is valid for six years and is renewable. **Fees are not refundable.**
1. Qualify and hold the Provisional Cross-Categorical Special Education Certificate for **two years**.
 2. A passing score on the performance portion of the Arizona Educator Proficiency Assessment. Currently, the assessment has not been developed. **Two years** of verified full-time teaching experience during the valid period of the provisional certificate may be used to **convert** the Provisional Certificate to a Standard Certificate. (Please submit a conversion form signed by the District Superintendent or Personnel Director verifying **two years** of full-time teaching experience during the valid period of the provisional certificate being converted.)
 3. A valid Arizona Fingerprint Clearance Card (plastic) issued by the Arizona Department of Public Safety at (602) 223-2279.

*PURSUANT TO A.R.S. 15-534.03, EACH EDUCATOR MUST NOTIFY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OF ANY CHANGE OF ADDRESS WITHIN THIRTY DAYS. CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORMS ARE AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE.

ALL DOCUMENTATION, INCLUDING TRANSCRIPTS, BECOMES THE PROPERTY OF THE ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND WILL NOT BE RETURNED. REQUIREMENTS MAY BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AND ARE FULLY REFERENCED IN THE ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES AND ADMINISTRATIVE CODE.